

From: ["domadmin@juneau.org"](mailto:domadmin@juneau.org)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Clerk Contact Form Message
Date: Friday, January 31, 2020 5:09:48 PM

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Subject

Visitor Task Force comments

Message

I would like to comment on the concerns brought to the Visitor Industry Task Force. First, I appreciate the City has established an advisory task force with defined purpose. As a citizen of Juneau for over 25 years I have seen the evolution of tourism and visitors. I have also seen the evolution in the manner the city as well as the tourism industry manages the visitor industry in a very positive manner.

- I find it easier to navigate the streets downtown due to the crossing guards, balusters, and street and sidewalk improvements.
- The money the visitor industry brings to the city has improved our waterfront through art, docking infrastructure, parking management, and parks.
- Sales taxes paid by visitors help the city support our schools by consistently being able to fund at and above the cap.
- Business opportunities have grown both new and existing industries with the growth of tourism.

For a town of approximately 30,000 residents we enjoy the opportunities of a much larger city in terms of business and industry as well as the comfort of smaller communities in terms of the ability to interact with our natural setting.

As the owner of Hearthside Books I can honestly say the visitor industry is what keeps the doors open year-round and provide year-round employment to our local residents.

As a former teacher in the district I saw the enormous impact the city's ability to provide funding had on the success of our students.

I do believe that the visitor industry is vital to the economic well-being of our community and can be, and should be managed with great care using models such as TBMP as one piece of that puzzle.

Sincerely,
Brenda Weaver, Owner
Hearthside Books, Etc.